

REMARKS

Currently pending claims 1-25 are for consideration by the Examiner.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8-13, 19 and 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(c) as being anticipated by Kiani et al. (US 6,388,208).

The Examiner rejected claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kiani et al. as applied to claim 1 and 4.

The Examiner rejected claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kiani as applied to claim 1 in combination with Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (APA).

The Examiner rejected claims 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kiani et al. as applied to claim 1 and further in combination with Suzuki.

Applicants respectfully traverse the §102 and §103 rejections with the following arguments.

35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8-13, 19 and 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kiani et al. (US 6,388,208).

Applicants respectfully contend that Kiani does not anticipate claim 1, because Kiani does teach each and every feature of claim 1. For example, Kiani does not teach "wherein the microvia structure includes at least one microvia, and wherein each microvia of the at least one microvia is a blind via having an outer wall surface and an end surface with an electrically conductive plating on the outer wall surface and on the end surface such that the electrically conductive plating includes a continuous distribution of electrically conductive material on the outer wall surface along an entire perimeter of the blind via". First, Applicants maintain that Kiani does not disclose a blind via. Instead, Kiani teaches through vias and buried vias. Second, Kiani does not disclose: "the electrically conductive plating includes a continuous distribution of electrically conductive material on the outer wall surface along an entire perimeter of the blind via". Instead, Kiani teaches multi-connection vias having a plurality of separate segments which are electrically isolated from each other (see Kiani, col. 7, lines 21-25).

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully maintain that Kiani does not anticipate claim 1, and that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Since claims 2-25 and 51-52 depend from claim 1, Applicants respectfully maintain that claims 2-25 and 51-52 are likewise in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kiani et al. The Examiner rejected claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kiani et al. in combination with Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (APA). The Examiner rejected claims 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kiani et al. and further in combination with Suzuki. Since claims 5-7, 14-16, and 17-20 depend from claim 1, which Applicants have argued *supra* to be patentable under 35 U.S.C. §102, Applicants maintain that claims 5-7, 14-16, and 17-20 are not unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

In addition, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's contention that page 4, lines 5-7 of Applicants' specification admits that PTFE having silicon particles is known in the art. Applicants respectfully contend that a careful analysis of page 4, lines 5-8 of Applicants' specification reveals that page 4, lines 5-7 of Applicants' specification does not admit that PTFE having silicon particles is known in the art. See comma (,) immediately following "silicon particles" on page 4, line 6 of Applicants' specification.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims 1-25 and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

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